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Vedage et al.

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(54) **AMINOPROPYLATION OF ALCOHOLS IN THE PRESENCE OF AMIDE OR ETHER SOLVENTS**

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(58) **Field of Classification Search** **564/490, 564/491**

See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

This invention relates to an improved hydrogenation process for the preparation of etheramines. In the process, cyanoethylated alcohols, i.e., the reaction product of an alcohol with (meth)acrylonitrile, are contacted with hydrogen in the presence of a sponge cobalt catalyst. The improvement in the process resides in effecting the hydrogenation process utilizing a cyanoethylated alcohol feedstock contaminated with byproduct acrylonitrile and utilizing a solvent that solubilizes byproduct (meth)acrylonitrile present in the feedstock. Specific classes of solvents employed are ethers and amides.

22 Claims, No Drawings